



Serial No.: 09/382,553

Attorney Docket No.: 99P7755US

As described in the Specification, an aspect of the present invention is to provide an improved system for managing a telecommunications network. The present invention allows, for example, updating a multiple of types of objects and coordinating such updating across the network. In one embodiment, the network includes one or more instances of a first object type and one or more instances of a second object type.

The first object type is associated with a first product of the communication network and the second object type is associated with a second product of the network. The network includes, e.g., a first local module for configuring each instance of the first object type and a second local module for configuring each instance of the second object type. A network management server of the network includes a product specific coordinator. The product specific coordinator includes means for coordinating configuration activities among each instance of the first object type via the first local module and means for coordinating configuration activities among each instance of the second object type via the second local module.

The network further includes a network coordinator adapted for configuring each instance of a network object. The network object includes a first component associated with the first object type and a second component associated with the second object type. A suitable network object might include, as an example, a person object that includes a PBX component and a phone mail component. The communication network may further include a network management client that includes a graphical user interface adapted for enabling a user to invoke the network management server.

Thus, Claim 1 recites:

A communication network, comprising:
at least one instance of a first object type associated with a first product of the communication network;
at least one instance of a second object type associated with a second product of the communication network;
first local means for configuring each instance of the first object type;
second local means for configuring each instance of the second object type;

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a network management server comprising a product specific coordinator including means for coordinating configuration activities among each instance of the first object type via the first local means and means for coordinating configuration activities among each instance of the second object type via the second local means and further comprising a network coordinator adapted for configuring each instance of a network object comprising a first component associated with the first object type and a second component associated with the second object type; and

a network management client including a graphical user interface adapted for enabling a user to invoke the network management server;

Claim 13 recites:

A communication network manager, comprising:

a network management server including a product specific coordinator comprising means for coordinating configuration activities among each instance of a first object type via first local configuration means and means for coordinating configuration activities among each instance of a second object type via second local means, and further comprising a network coordinator adapted for configuring each instance of a network object comprising a first component associated with the first object type and a second component associated with the second object type; and

a network management client suitable for enabling a user to invoke the network management server;

and claim 24 recites:

A method of managing a communication network, comprising:

identifying the components of a network object in response to a network configuration request;

invoking a first local configuration application to configure a first component of the network object; and

invoking a second local configuration application to configure a second component of the network object.

As described in the Specification, the first and second object types may be embodied as phone mail objects or PBX objects, for example. The network object may be embodied as a person object or a resource object. Thus, the present invention allows, for example, updating a *multiple* of types of objects and coordinating such

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updating across the network.

In contrast, as acknowledged in the Official Action, Lo does not disclose, *inter alia*, separate local means or separate instance configuration of the first and second object types. More particularly, Lo appears to provide merely for updating individual instances of features, i.e., of a single object, and not of multiple objects, or the coordination thereof. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that, if anything, Lo is representative of the problem solved by the present invention, which allows for updating of a variety of types of objects and the coordination of such updating. Indeed, Lo does not even appear to recognize the problem solved by the present invention.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully requested,

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Date: 23 July 02

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